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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/630,565	07/30/2003	Henry C. Coles	200302229-2	8650

7590 04/03/2006  
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P. O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER	
DUONG, HUNG V	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2835	

DATE MAILED: 04/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/630,565	COLES ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Hung v Duong	2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/11/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,7-16,21-24,26-29 and 31-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,9-16,27-29,31-36 and 38 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 22-24 and 37 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**


- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

  
**HUNG VAN DUONG**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

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## DETAILED ACTION

1. Prosecution on the merits of this application is reopened on claims 1-4, 7-16, 21-24, 26-29, and 31-38 which have considered unpatentable for the reasons indicated below:

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 21,26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boulay et al (US Pat. 5,978,212).

Regarding claims 21, 26, Boulay et al teaches a tool-free coupling (14, 20) movable between secured and released positions (secured when engaged with recesses 21, released when disengaged from recesses 21); and a bending-activated release (18) coupled to the tool-free coupling (14, 20) and configured to move the tool-free coupling (14, 20) between the latched and released positions in both directions (push to insert, pull to release) wherein the bending-activated release (18) coupled to the tool-free coupling (14, 20) comprises first and second low-profile flexible members disposed in the first and second planes, respectively

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wherein the first and second low-profile flexible members each comprise a fixed end and a movable end, wherein the movable ends are coupled near the intersection of the first and second planes (figure 1).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 22-24, 37 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art fails to show that the release member is rotatably coupled to the latch member or that wherein the bending-activated release is disposed in the first plane and the tool-free coupling is disposed in a second plane inaccessible from the first plane during mounting.

4. Claims 1-4, 7-16, 27-29, 31-36, 38 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art fails to show that the latch member and the release member are rotatably coupled at opposite ends from the fixed ends or that a modular housing comprising an accessible side and a lateral side; a low profile latch coupled to the lateral side; and a bowable and graspable release member coupled to the accessible side and hingedly coupled to the low profile latch or that mounting a plurality of redundant cooling fans each having the tool-free coupling and the flex-activated release.

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**Conclusion**

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

None

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2041. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30 to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn D. Feild can be reached on (571) 272-2092. The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (866) 217-9197.

HVD

03/30/06.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hung Duong', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Hung Duong  
Primary Examiner.